

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the research, research question, research objective, previous study, significance of the research, and definition key terms.

1. Background of The Research

Figurative language is used in any form of communication, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, and song. The effectiveness of figurative language in four main reasons, the first, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary work, the second, it is a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. The last, it is a way of saying much in brief compass (Perrine, 1997:34-35).

According to Abrams (1999: 96-97), figurative language is conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehend as the standard meaning of word, or else the standard order of word, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect. From statement above figurative language is the language used by the user to create in the language to make striking and gives the implied meaning.

Hornby (1995:1133) describes song is piece of music with words that is sung. Songs cannot be separated from music because both of them have relation each other. Music is sounds arrangement in a way that is pleasant or exciting to listen. Song can represent ideas about all sides of human life, such as happiness and sadness, love and hate, good and bad, and so on. Figurative language is usually used by composer to make a song containing more artistic value. It means that the meaning will be expressed by using words or sentences that need interpretation.

Based on explanation above, the researcher chooses figurative language the area of this especially the lyrics of Alicia key's. She is an American singer, songwriter, record producer, pianist and actress. Keys released her debut album with J Records, *Songs in A Minor* was released in 2001. producing her first Billboard Hot 100 number-one single "Fallin", and selling over 12 million copies worldwide. The album earned Keys several awards and accolades, including five Grammy Awards at the 44th Grammy Awards and went platinum five times over. *Songs in A Minor* debuted at number one on the *Billboard* 200 chart, selling over 236,000 copies in its first week. It has sold over 6.2 million copies in the United States and twelve million copies worldwide. *Rolling Stone* magazine named *Songs in A Minor* the second best album of 2001. It means that these songs are interest for hearing. these songs describe about her relationship with her boyfriend or ex-boyfriend.

In this study, the researcher would analyze the figurative language from Alicia Key's song lyrics. The researcher chooses this lyrics because there are so

many figurative language found in this lyrics. The example below is taken from alicia key's song the title "Goodbye"

Maybe love is a hopeless crime

The sentences above is metaphor, because the sentences does not use word "like" or "as", the sentence compare " love" with "crime". The word " love" here mean something Which can make a person crazy, and "crime" here mean something makes people afraid.

Based on the example above, the researcher is interested in doing this research which deals with types and meaning of figurative language that is used in Alicia Key's songs. The researcher analyzes the data in semantics frame. This researcher analyzes the meaning of language from the song, with title ***"Figurative Language in Song Lyrics of Alicia Key's "Song in A Mirror" Album.***

2. Research Question

Based on the background of the research discussed above the researcher formulates the problem in following question.

1. What are types of figurative language in song lyrics of Alicia Key's "Song in A Mirror" Album?
2. What are the meaning of each figurative language in song of lyrics Alicia Key's "Song in A Mirror" Album?

3. Research Objective

This research has two goals to achieve, as the purposes related to research question about figurative language in Alicia Key's *Song in A Mirror* Album song lyrics. hence the goals of this research are :

1. To find out the figurative language used in *Alicia Key's* song.
2. To describe the meaning of each figurative language used in *Alicia Key's* song.

4. Previous Study

In this research, the writer would like to analyze the figurative language used in Alicia key's song. To make sure this research is original; the writer would like to present the other research that have close relation with the study. In this graduating paper, The writer wants to present the previous research that deals especially with figurative language analysis in general.

The first previous research was done by Masruri (2012) from State Institute for Islamic Studies (STAIN) of Salatiga entitled *Figurative Language Analysis in Letto's Song Truth, Cry, and Lie Album*. He analyzed figurative language Analysis in Letto's Song Truth, Cry, and Lie Album. The finding show that the kind of figurative language which used in Letto's song are comparative figurative language, contradictive figurative language, correlative figurative language, and repetitive or enforcement figurative language.

The second study related to Figurative Language Analysis in Maher Zain Songs was written by Biladina (2014). In her graduating paper, she analyzed figurative language analysis in Maher Zain songs. According to her, she had been

classifying the figurative language and then giving reason. Result of this research is to discover figurative language (personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, litotes, metonymy, ellipsis and repetition).

Another study by Ramadhani (2015) is entitled *An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Coldplay Songs Lyrics*. The study found the kind of figurative language in song lyrics and the message in song lyrics. The research used descriptive approach. Five songs selected lyric are randomly drawn as a data of the research. Those songs are; *Yellow*, *The Scientist*, *Fix You*, *Paradise*, and *Sky Full of Stars*.

In this study, the writer presents an analysis of figurative language seen on the song lyric by Alicia Key's "Song in A Mirror" album. This research has similarity with above researches. All of them study about figurative language in English songs. However it also has difference from the previous research, that is on the object of study and the research question.

5. Significance of The Research

This research can gives the researcher understandings the knowledge about figurative language and people know more about song lyrics, it is not just the words in song and people enjoy to hear the music, but there is explicit meaning in song lyric. Academically, this study give contribution for the student of UIN Bandung, especially at English department. This research will be alternative reference for those who are interested in figurative language in Alicia Key's Album.

In this research the researcher expects that the readers get more understanding about semantics, especially about figurative language. The researcher also expects that the reader can understand about figurative language in song lyric and this research is usefull for student who want to conduct similiar research on figurative language.

6. Definition Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding on explains some terms used to this research, the following are the definition :

- 6.1. Semantics : the study of meaning communicated through language. (Saeed, 2009:3)
- 6.2. Figurative Language : language using figure of speech, is language cannot be taken literally. (Perrine,1997).
- 6.3. Lyric : expressing direct personal feelings.(Oxford Dictionary, 2008: 264)
- 6.4. Alicia Keys : is an American singer, songwriter, record producer, pianist and actress. Keys released her debut album with J Records, Songs in A Minor was released in 2001. producing her first Billboard Hot 100 number-one single "Fallin'", and selling over 12 million copies worldwide. The album get five Grammy Awards in 2002.